

Notes from UHRC Policy Group Meeting, 11/29

Subject: Notes from UHRC Policy Group Meeting, 11/29
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Date: 11/30/18, 4:49 PM
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Thanks for participating in Thursday's UHRC Policy Group meeting.

We discussed the following:

UHRC Operations:

- * The UHRC continued its operations from 7am to 5pm, Monday - Friday.
- * The UHRC helped to coordinate LAHSA and outreach resources that were deployed during the Woolsey Fire.
- * During this week's rain event, the UHRC coordinated extra LAPD patrols and LAHSA outreach to unsheltered individuals in brush areas and along the LA River and worked with LAHSA to secure emergency shelter beds at Volunteers of America for folks from these areas.
- * Enhanced services continue to go well in El Pueblo. Here are some of the metrics to date (since 10/10):
 - * # people added to El Puente Interest List -- 37
 - * # of shelter placements directly from the streets -- 15
 - * # of housing placements directly from the streets -- 2

Joint City/County Typhus Task Force:

- * The UHRC will continue to facilitate the work of and convene the Task Force.
- * The number of flea-borne typhus cases in the City has not changed since the last update on Nov. 13th. There are 31 cases citywide; 12 of the 31 were identified in the affected DTLA area. No new cases have been reported since September.
- * The pest control contractor, Cats USA, continues working with BSS and LASAN to dust for fleas. To date, more than 427 rodent burrows have been treated over 19 City blocks. Additionally, another 200 tree wells were sealed by the BSS Urban Forestry Division.
- * BSS is close to final approval to begin using sterilization bait.
- * BSS is now embedded with OHS to increase the frequency with which it is sealing rodent burrows.
- * LASAN continues to collect trash twice a day throughout the affected area. LAPD has been supporting the cleanups--not on an overtime basis.
- * The LAPD reported it will receive 5,000 doses of Naloxone on 11/30. Training will begin in December and then Naloxone will be deployed in patrol Department-wide.

Joint City/County Opioid and Fentanyl-related Deaths Collaborative:

- * Earlier this month, LAHSA Executive Director Peter Lynn approached the Mayor's Office about information he learned from his colleagues in the Bay Area about increases in opioid and particularly fentanyl-related deaths in the homeless population. Peter asked if the Mayor's Office would help convene a joint City-County meeting to discuss the impact of this issue in Los Angeles and efforts to address it. Although this is not a homeless issue, the UHRC convened a meeting with City and County partners on November 18, 2018. Notes from the Nov. 16th meeting are attached.
- * Takeaways from the meeting include:
 - * The County has organized County-wide collaborative efforts to better understand and respond to the growing opioid crisis in Los Angeles. These collaboratives -- the Safe Med LA Coalition and the HEART Collaborative (Help For Addiction, Recovery, and Treatment, "HEART") -- have been meeting for quite some time. They are chaired by County DPH.
 - * The County has a comprehensive five-year strategic plan for fighting opioid and prescription drug abuse, led by the Department of Public Health, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control program.
 - * The Mayor's Office / UHRC will now officially represent the City in these broad County-led coalitions. The next coalition meeting is December 10.
- * LAHSA was approved to deploy Naloxone and will be distributing 180 doses to every HET team in the City, as well as a number of administrators. Training will take place in December.

Discussion of VHFHSZ Encampment Protocols:

- * The Mayor's Office, City Attorney's Office, and LAFD met to discuss possible legislative options for addressing the issue of evacuating individuals experiencing homelessness from brush areas, including during red flag days and during emergencies. A number of Council Offices, including CD11, CD4, and CD5, introduced a motion establishing an Urban Wildfire Task Force (UWTF). The UHRC will work to ensure the work of the LAFD-led VHFHSZ Task Force is aligned and coordinated with the UWTF (talk about alphabet soup!!).
- * The LAFD's VHFHSZ Task Force met immediately after the UHRC Policy Group meeting on 11/29. The action items will also be reported out at the next regular UHRC Policy Group meeting.

A Bridge Home - Focus Areas:

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* El Puente / El Pueblo

* TPC reported there were several leaks in the trailers during the rain and that there were some other electrical issues on site. BOE, GSD, and DWP immediately responded and have addressed the issues.

* The Policy Group asked LAHSA if new encampments that have popped up on 1st Street, between Broadway and Spring, have come from El Pueblo or some other area. LAHSA reported that only a few were from the El Pueblo area. LAHSA will ensure HET outreach workers engage with these folks to learn more about where they're from and what needs they may have.

* 1533 Schrader

* Construction at the site continues. At the time of the meeting, construction was 10% complete.

* 1920 W. 3rd Street

* LAPD discussed their plan to provide additional patrol resources around this facility. Per LAPD, an additional overtime unit of officers will patrol the area on "high crime times" on "high crime days."

* LASAN will provide additional bulky item removal service in the area around the W. 3rd St. facility.

* 100 Sunset Ave.

* Motion introduced 11/30.

* CD11 proposed the following Focus Area boundaries: City boundary to the north; Ocean Front Walk to the west; Venice Blvd. to the south; and 6th St. to the east.

* LAPD mapped encampments in this area on 11/27 and 11/28 and identified a total of 71 encampments.

* HSAC conducted a heat analysis of the encampments in this area and identified three potential enhanced outreach zones.

* Next steps include discussing the proposed Focus Area boundaries and the boundaries of the Special Enforcement & Cleaning Zone around the facility.

* 5965 St. Andrew's Pl.

* Motion introduced 11/30.

* 28917 S. Hope St.

* No update provided.

Additional:

* LAHSA reported they had been contacted by the County Department of Public Health to alert them to several cases of Hep A that were discovered in Reseda, with a common link to the area of Victory Blvd. and Tampa Ave <https://www.google.com/maps/search/victory+and+tampa/@34.1867506,-118.5554483,17z>. LAHSA will report back with more information as soon as possible.

* LASAN reported they had been citing businesses in the Flower District for illegal dumping. LASAN will report metrics at the next UHRC Policy Group meeting.

* BSS will report back on a proposed plan to conduct daily sweeping and trash pick-up in Skid Row.

Notes from the 11/1 UHRC Policy Group meeting are attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if I have missed (or misstated) anything from the meeting.

Thanks so much!

Brian

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—Attachments:—

Notes from 11-1-18 UHRC Policy Group Meeting.pdf	303 kB
Notes from 11-16-18 City-County Opioid Working Group Meeting.pdf	371 kB